



**Connecticut
Light & Power**

The Northeast Utilities System



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**TESTIMONY OF RICHARD A. SODERMAN
THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
and YANKEE GAS SERVICES COMPANY**

**Energy and Technology Committee
March 1, 2012**

Re: H.B. No. 5272 AN ACT CONCERNING ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE.

Good afternoon. My name is Richard Soderman, and I am Director of Legislative Policy and Strategy for Northeast Utilities Service Company, appearing on behalf of the Connecticut Light and Power Company and Yankee Gas Services Company.

This proposed bill calls for Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to open a docket to develop in state renewable technologies. We support the development of renewable resources in the most economic, beneficial manner so that scarce consumer dollars are used most wisely. We also support the concept of a docket to examine renewable technologies, but we think that the proceeding should be done by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection rather than PURA, and that such a proceeding has already been authorized by law. Pursuant to Public Act 11-80, DEEP is planning to prepare a comprehensive energy plan by July 2012. We would anticipate that that proceeding will be informed by the results of DEEP's most recent review of energy options, its 2012 Integrated Resource Plan recently produced. We recommend that such examination look at technologies in view of commercialization, costs for participants and non-participants, job creation and degradation (due to adverse impacts on rates), timing and ability for consumers to afford such programs.

At CL&P, we are also considering the use of renewable generation as a component of various storm hardening initiatives that we intend to roll out to state agencies over the next several months. We are considering the use of Section 127 of Public Act 11-80 as a means to get initial projects in the field in late 2012 or soon thereafter. We hope that our initial proposals will provide a blueprint for applications in the future.